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UTILITY APPLICATION FOR UNITED STATES PATENT

FOR

DIGITAL BROADCASTING SERVICE RECEIVER FOR IMPROVING RECEPTION
ABILITY BY SWITCHED BEAM-FORMING

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DIGITAL BROADCASTING SERVICE RECEIVER FOR IMPROVING
RECEPTION ABILITY BY SWITCHED BEAM-FORMING

Field of the Invention

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The present invention relates to a receiver for digital broadcasting service; and, more particularly, to a receiver for improving reception ability of digital broadcasting service by switched beam-forming.

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Description of Related Arts

A signal of digital broadcasting service contains various formats of data such as video, audio or computer data and is transmitted to a user. The signal of the digital broadcasting transmitter is affected by characteristics of channel such as multipath, a Doppler frequency, and active channel of mobile receiving environment. The digital television broadcasting service is more easily affected by the characteristics of channel compared with the analogue television broadcasting service. That is, in the analogue television broadcasting service, an affection of the characteristics of channel degrades a picture quality, however, in the digital television broadcasting service, the signal affected by the characteristics of channel may not be decoded.

Specially, a vestigial side band (VSB) transmitting

method uses a channel equalizer for compensating interference between multipaths of channel. However, the channel equalizer could not sufficiently compensate the interference especially in a mobile receiving channel.

5 Generally, a mobile channel has Rayleigh fading channel characteristic and frequency selective low speed fading variable channel characteristic. In a poor Rayleigh fading channel, the channel equalizer of a VSB digital television DTV transmission system cannot perfectly perform
10 to trace variable channel characteristic and to detect main path signal, therefore, the channel equalizer produces an error of detecting and tracing in output signal.

15 The errors mentioned above are distinguished from an ambient noise of transmission channel and they increase a threshold of visibility, which is a minimum signal to noise ratio for recovering to original signal of DTV. Therefore, the channel equalizer performance needs to be improved for providing normal service in mobile channel of VSB transmission system having TOV of 15 decibel (dB).

20 In a conventional VSB transmission system, a channel equalizer utilizes algorithm such as a least mean square LMS, a recursive least square and kalman for eliminating an interference of active multipath by signal processing of time region.

25 However, in case of the poor Raleigh fading channel such as the mobile channel, reception ability is decreased since the channel equalizer cannot sufficiently compensate

interference.

Summary of the Invention

5 It is, therefore, an object of the present invention to provide a receiver for improving reception ability of digital broadcasting service by switched beam-forming.

In accordance with an aspect of the present invention, there is provided an apparatus for receiving a signal of 10 digital broadcasting service including: an array antenna having a plurality of antenna elements for receiving signals of the digital broadcasting service; demodulation unit for demodulating the receiving signals corresponding to each of antenna elements in the array antenna; beam-forming unit for generating a predetermined number of beam-forming signal by applying a beam-forming weights in order to direct to a predetermined direction according to the modulated signal from the modulation unit; and beam selection unit for selectively receiving signals of desired 20 direction according to the beam forming signal.

In accordance with an aspect of the present invention, there is also provided an apparatus for receiving a signal of digital broadcasting service including: switched beamforming unit for generating a beamformed signal in 25 order to steer the beam to a predetermined number of angle by applying a beam-forming weight to received signal of digital broadcasting service and selectively receiving a

signal of desired direction.

Brief Description of the Drawing(s)

5 The above and other objects and features of the present invention will become apparent from the following description of the preferred embodiments given in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, in which:

10 Fig. 1 is a diagram illustrating a receiver of a digital television (DTV) broadcasting signal using a switched beam-forming in accordance with the preferred embodiment of the present invention;

15 Fig. 2 is a detailed diagram showing a receiver of digital broadcasting service in accordance with the present invention;

Fig. 3 is a view depicting a relationship between a signal of digital broadcasting service and antenna elements of array antenna in accordance with a preferred embodiment of the present invention;

20 Fig. 4A and 4B show a beam pattern applied to a receiver of digital television broadcasting signal in accordance with the preferred embodiment of the present invention;

25 Fig. 5 is a graph for analyzing incidence of multipath signals used for a receiver of a digital television broadcasting signal in accordance with the present invention; and

Figs. 6A and 6B graphs showing a relation between strength and delay time according to paths.

Detailed Description of the Invention

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Other objects and aspects of the invention will become apparent from the following description of the embodiments with reference to the accompanying drawings, which is set forth hereinafter.

10 Fig. 1 is a diagram illustrating a receiver of a digital television (DTV) broadcasting signal using a switched beam-forming in accordance with the preferred embodiment of the present invention. Referring to Fig. 1, the receiver includes a DTV array antenna 110, a
15 synchronizer 120, a beam former 130 and a channel equalizer 140.

The DTV array antenna 110 receives a signal of the digital television broadcasting signal and passes the received digital television broadcasting signal to the beam former 130 through the synchronizer 120. The beam former 130 improves channel characteristics of the signal and the signal having improved channel characteristics is passed to the channel equalizer 140.

20 By improving the channel characteristics of the signal before inputting to the equalization, the user can have better picture quality.

25 Fig. 2 is a detailed diagram showing a receiver of

digital broadcasting service in accordance with the present invention.

Referring to Fig. 2, the receiver includes an array antenna 210, a demodulating unit 220, a beam-forming unit 5 230, a beam selector 240 and a channel equalizer 250.

The array antenna receives signals of digital television broadcasting service. If the array antenna has N integer number of antenna elements, the received signal can be expressed by a delay time (td), which is caused by a 10 distance between antenna elements. It is expressed as following equation 1.

$$t_d = \frac{2\pi D}{\lambda} \sin \theta \quad \text{Eq. 1}$$

15 In Eq. 1, D is a distance between antenna elements, θ incidence angle of a path and λ is a wavelength of a signal.

Fig. 3 is a view depicting a relationship between a signal of digital broadcasting service and antenna elements of array antenna in accordance with a preferred embodiment 20 of the present invention. Fig. 3 also represents graphical view of Eq. 1.

The array antenna 210 of Fig. 2 requires $M \times N$ demodulators when the array antenna is M axis of linear arrays and there are N antenna elements in each of M axis 25 of linear arrays, wherein M and N is integer number. In other hand, the array antenna 210 requires N demodulators

when the array antenna is a circular array with N antenna elements or a planar array.

An output signal of the demodulator 220 is an input signal of the beam former 230 and the input signal is
5 expressed as x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N . For switched beam-forming, beam-forming weights w_1, w_2, \dots, w_N are applied by considering a steering vector forming N beams.

At first, input signals x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N are converted to K number of beams to direct to a predetermined direction
10 by applying the beam-forming weights. That is, the input signals X_1, X_2, \dots, X_N and the beam-forming weights w_1, w_2, \dots, w_K are multiplied and passed through adders 231 to 233 for building a beam-forming signal directing K number of azimuth.

15 The beam selector 240 selects one beam directing to a direction for receiving desired signal among K beams and dumps signals received from remained $K-1$ beams. By selecting one beam of desired direction, receiving signals from undesired azimuths are eliminated. As a result,
20 characteristic of channel is improved. After eliminating, a signal y of the selected beam is inputted to the channel equalizer 250.

Fig. 4A and 4B show a beam pattern applied to a receiver of digital television broadcasting signal in
25 accordance with the preferred embodiment of the present invention.

Referring to Fig. 4A, a plurality of antenna elements

forms beam patterns of receiver by converting parameters of antenna elements.

Fig. 4B shows a case that multipath signal is inputted to second beam pattern of the switched beam-former.

5 Among beam patterns determined by coefficients of beam-former, second beam pattern of direction receiving main path is selected.

The characteristics of multipath are shown in below table 1.

10 Table 1

	strength of signal	delay time	azimuth angle (incidence angle)
mainpath	1	0 μ s	-22°
multipath 1	0.6	10 μ s	-30°
multipath 2	0.8	20 μ s	-17°

Fig. 5 is a graph for analyzing incidence of multipath signals used for a receiver of a digital television broadcasting signal in accordance with the 15 present invention.

That is, Fig. 5 is a graph showing incidence of multipath signals according to antenna gain and incidence angle of second beam pattern in Fig. 4B.

Since a size of beam pattern is a gain of antenna 20 when the gain of antenna according to incidence angle is as shown in Fig. 5, the signal of main path is incidence with antenna gain 1 and the signal of multipath 1 is incidence

with antenna gain 0. And the antenna gain of the multipath 2 is 0.7.

Therefore, multipath 1 is eliminated by selecting second beam since the incidence angle -30° of array antenna 5 of multipath and the gain of second beam is 0 at -30° .

Figs. 6A and 6B graphs showing a relation between strength and delay time according to paths.

Fig. 6A shows a case of receiving all-directions antenna. In this case, the strength of the signal of main 10 path is 1, a standard delay time for incidence to antenna element is $0 \mu\text{s}$ and the incidence angle of antenna element is -22° since signal characteristics of multipath are passed. In case of multipath 1, the signal strength is 0.6, delay time is $10 \mu\text{s}$ and incidence angle is -30° . Also in 15 case of multipath 2, the signal strength is 0.8, the delay time is $20 \mu\text{s}$ and the incidence angle is -17° .

However, there is no difference of strength of main path in case of selecting second beam in Fig. 6B but multipath 1 is eliminated since gain of antenna is 0 and 20 the strength of signal is decreased 0.56 (0.8 (strength of signal) * 0.7 (antenna gain)) since antenna gain of multipath 2 is 0.7.

Therefore, the output signal of second beam would have improved channel characteristics comparing to inputted 25 signals to array antenna.

As mentioned above, the present invention effectively eliminates multipath based on space filtering by utilizing

beam-forming method with an array antenna for improving receiving performance of digital television broadcasting with VSB.

5 The present invention forms multiple beams by using switched beam-forming method, selects one of beams, which is desired, and a signal received from the selected beam are inputted to a channel equalizer. By selecting the beam for receiving desired signal, the signals of multipath are effectively eliminated.

10 Therefore, the present invention can improve receiving performance of digital broadcasting signal in a channel with multipath without changing conventional standards of digital television broadcasting system.

15 Furthermore, the present invention mentioned above can improve receiving performance of VSB receiving method and can eliminate active multipath by using a beam-forming method of the array antenna.

Also, the present invention can improve a performance of receiving by using a switched beam forming.

20 While the present invention has been described with respect to certain preferred embodiments, it will be apparent to those skilled in the art that various changes and modifications may be made without departing from the scope of the invention as defined in the following claims.